

ABSTRACT

A chromatographic assay device for the analysis of an analyte in a liquid sample has a proximal sample application zone and a distal test zone. The test zone contains a first ligand capable of binding with the analyte to form an analyte–ligand complex. The device also includes a spatially distinct reservoir containing a labeled reagent capable of binding to the analyte–ligand complex; an absorbent sink which is positioned to be capable of drawing the contents of the spatially distinct reservoir through the test zone; and structures for contacting the spatially distinct reservoir with the chromatographic medium so that the labeled reagent migrates from the reservoir to the absorbent sink, and thereby through the test zone to determine the presence or absence of the analyte. The device is used in a method for detecting analyte.